

LYNDON B. JOHNSON, TEX., CHAIRMAN
RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA.
WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH.
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX.
ROBERT S. KERR, OKLA.
STUART SYMINGTON, MO.
JOHN STENNIS, MISS.
STEPHEN M. YOUNG, OHIO
THOMAS J. DODD, CONN.
HOWARD W. CANNON, NEV.
KENNETH E. BELIEU, STAFF DIRECTOR

STYLES BRIDGES, N.H.
ALEXANDER WILEY, WIS.
MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
THOS. E. MARTIN, IOWA
CLIFFORD P. CASE, N.J.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE SCIENCES

August 26, 1960

Dear Professor Lederberg:

I appreciated receiving your recent letter commenting on the staff report of the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences entitled "Space Research in the Life Sciences."

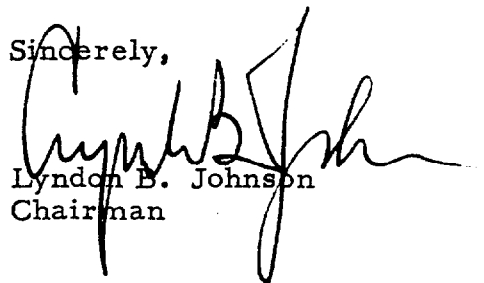
The report, as you indicate, has been interpreted in some quarters as a criticism of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for establishing an Office of Life Science Programs. Actually the report does not include this criticism but, rather, cautions that a program of such potential size and significance should have a "coordinated program execution that utilizes fully all resources available."

Other Government agencies have been involved significantly in life science activities for some time as is evident, for example, in extensive Department of Defense resources and in National Science Foundation grant programs. It is in this regard that the staff report meets a need in providing information about existing life science programs and their present or potential relationship to the Nation's overall space program.

The role of the life sciences in space exploration is indeed an important one and I am grateful to you for discussing various aspects of it in your letter. I am always glad to receive informed comment about such an important subject.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



Lyndon B. Johnson
Chairman

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University Medical Center
Palo Alto, California